

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an assembly and method for topically applying a local anesthetic agent into the trachea and/or hypopharynx during intubation with a tracheal tube. The present invention is designed to topically anesthetize the tracheal surfaces that are in contact with the tracheal tube, thereby preventing the patient from experiencing physiological reactions such as coughing, pain or discomfort from the indwelling tracheal tube, as well as post operative or post extubation laryngospasm. Local anesthetic application can be performed by bolus or continuous infusion.